REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Kenya National Development Programme

NATIONAL MINERALS AND MINING VISION

MADINI YA TAIFA

The Nation's Minerals

The KNAGS Survey | 970 Mineral Occurrences | 3 Million Line Kilometres
14 Strategic Minerals | The Critical Minerals Frontier
Mrima Hill | Soda Ash | Titanium | Gold | Gemstones
Critical Energy Transition Minerals | Coal at Mui Basin
Beneficiation Mandate | Royalty Reform | Revenue Distribution
Artisanal Mining Formalisation | The National Mining Corporation
The Community Compact | Anti-Corruption Architecture

Kenya National Development Programme 2026

A STATEMENT OF INTENT

For most of Kenya's post-independence history, the country did not know what lay beneath its soil. Colonial-era geological surveys conducted at coarse resolution in the 1960s provided a sketch, not a map. The sketch was good enough to find the deposits that were obvious: the Lake Magadi soda ash, the Kwale mineral sands, the Kerio Valley fluorspar. But it left vast areas uncharacterised. Kenya was making mining policy about resources it had never properly measured.

That changed in 2022 when Kenya completed the Kenya Nationwide Airborne Geophysical Survey: the most comprehensive resource mapping exercise ever conducted on African soil by Africans. Over three million line kilometres of data. The entire national territory covered. Conducted by young Kenyan professionals without foreign expertise, recognised internationally with a Bentley Infrastructure award. The survey identified 970 mineral occurrences across all 47 counties. The ground truthing is ongoing. The full picture is still emerging. But Kenya now knows, with modern precision, what it has.

What it has is extraordinary. Mrima Hill in Kwale holds one of the world's top five rare earth deposits and one of the world's largest niobium reserves. Copper, cobalt, lithium, coltan, nickel, graphite, and chromite confirmed across 15 counties and counting. Gold in Migori, Turkana, West Pokot, Marsabit, and Isiolo. Tsavorite and other world-class gemstones in Taita-Taveta and the Kwale coastal belt. This is a surveyed, partially confirmed, and rapidly clarifying picture of one of Africa's most significant mineral landscapes.

The question is not whether Kenya has minerals. The question is whether Kenya will manage them this time. Base Titanium operated at Kwale for a decade. It generated over KSh 36 billion in taxes and royalties. When it closed in December 2024 after the ore was depleted, Kwale County Government was still waiting for KSh 900 million in unpaid royalties. The community that lived above the minerals that generated billions has almost nothing to show for it. That failure of distribution is the most important lesson of Kenya's mining history. This programme ensures it is not repeated.

Madini ya Taifa. Known. Managed. Processed here. Shared fairly.

SECTION 1: THE SURVEY -- WHAT KENYA NOW KNOWS IT HAS

Kenya's mineral policy for the first six decades of independence was constrained by incomplete geological knowledge. The 1960s surveys were conducted at 1:250,000 scale with analogue instruments -- valuable for obvious surface deposits but incapable of detecting deep mineralisation or the concealed structural features that host many of the world's most significant ore bodies. The result was a mining sector built on the easy-to-find deposits while the harder-to-find -- and potentially far more valuable -- deposits remained unknown.

1.1 The Kenya Nationwide Airborne Geophysical Survey (KNAGS)

The KNAGS was initiated in April 2021, completed and unveiled in June 2022, and has since been undergoing ground truthing and confirmatory fieldwork. It is the foundational act of Kenya's modern mining programme.

Element	Detail
Data Volume	Over three million line kilometres of magnetic, radiometric, and high-density dGPS data. The highest-resolution national airborne geophysical dataset of any country in sub-Saharan Africa.
Coverage	96.5% of Kenya's land mass and 56% of water mass. Gaps are in areas of extreme terrain where flight safety prohibited survey operations. Follow-up ground surveys planned.
Technology	Multi-sensor platform combining aeromagnetic measurements (identifying iron-bearing minerals and structural geology), radiometric measurements (uranium, thorium, potassium concentrations), and precise GPS. Processed using Seequent's Oasis montaj -- the global standard for geophysical data analysis.
Execution	Conducted entirely by young Kenyan professionals under the Joint National and Resource Mapping team including the Kenya Geological Survey, Kenya Defence Forces, and National Intelligence Service. First African country to conduct such an extensive survey without foreign expertise.
Recognition	KNAGS was a Founders' Honors recipient at Bentley's 2023 Year in Infrastructure Going Digital Awards in the Subsurface and Modelling category.
Outputs	Updated geological maps for the entire country. Mineral prospectivity maps. Groundwater resource maps. Geothermal potential maps. Infrastructure planning maps already used by the Ministries of Education and Roads.

1.2 The 970 Mineral Occurrences

The KNAGS preliminary analysis identified 970 mineral occurrences across all 47 counties. These are geophysical anomalies consistent with mineralisation -- not confirmed economic deposits. Ground truthing is required to confirm commercial viability. The government has to date confirmed mineral occurrences in 24 counties, with work ongoing in the remainder.

Category	Status
Industrial Minerals	Construction minerals, soda ash, diatomite, fluorspar, gypsum, salt. Most already in production at some scale.
Base Metals	Copper, lead, zinc, nickel, cobalt, chromite, manganese. Confirmed in Kitui, Embu, West Pokot, Turkana, Samburu, and Elgeyo Marakwet among others.
Precious Metals	Gold confirmed in Migori, Kakamega, Turkana, West Pokot, Marsabit, and Isiolo. Silver occurrences associated with gold zones.
Rare Earth Elements	World-class deposit at Mrima Hill, Kwale. Additional occurrences in Kilifi and Taita-Taveta. Interior county anomalies require ground truthing.
Critical Energy Minerals	Lithium, cobalt, tantalum, coltan, niobium, graphite, tin confirmed across multiple counties. Growing demand as EV and renewable energy production scales globally.
Radioactive Minerals	Uranium and thorium occurrences confirmed. Declared strategic. Not included in the current active exploration programme pending nuclear energy policy development.
Gemstones	Ruby, tsavorite, sapphire, spinel, alexandrite confirmed in Taita-Taveta, Kwale, and Baringo. Kenya is among the world's primary tsavorite sources -- a gem found almost nowhere else on Earth.

1.3 The Ground Truthing Programme

The KNAGS has transformed Kenya's geological knowledge from a sketch to a high-resolution image. But the image must still be interpreted at ground level. The programme fully funds the Kenya Geological Survey for the national ground truthing programme -- KSh 4 billion annually, up from the chronically underfunded current allocation. The 15 counties identified in the initial KNAGS analysis receive ground truthing teams within 2 years. All 47 counties within 8 years. University geology faculties are formally partnered with the KGS as research and fieldwork partners. All data enters the National Geodata Centre in real time -- the geology of Kenya belongs to Kenya, not to any ministry or company that commissioned the survey.

SECTION 2: MRIMA HILL -- THE CRITICAL MINERALS FRONTIER

Mrima Hill in Kwale County is Kenya's most significant mineral asset and its most consequential governance challenge. A forested hill covering approximately 390 acres near the Indian Ocean coast, it sits above one of the world's top five rare earth deposits and one of the world's largest niobium reserves. Estimated gross revenue over a 23-year mine life: USD 62.4 billion at 2013 prices. Its governance history is a cautionary tale: first identified in 1919, the deposit remains undeveloped in 2026 not because of technical barriers but because of licence disputes, community tension, foreign power competition, and institutional failure.

Mrima Hill is now at an inflection point. In January 2024, the government floated a tender for a detailed feasibility study. The United States, China, and Australia have all expressed strategic interest. The Digo community maintains profound spiritual and cultural connections to Kaya Mrima -- a sacred forest that overlaps with the mineral deposit. Kwale County Government, still awaiting Base Titanium's unpaid royalties, has stated it will not discuss Mrima's future until previous obligations are settled.

2.1 What Mrima Hill Contains

Element	Detail
Rare Earth Elements	Indicated resource of approximately 109 million tonnes grading 4.4% total rare earth oxide (TREO). Key elements: neodymium and praseodymium (permanent magnets for EVs and wind turbines), dysprosium and terbium (high-performance magnets), lanthanum and cerium (catalysts). A world-scale REE deposit comparable to the largest known globally.
Niobium	Approximately 680 million kilograms of niobium in 105 million tonnes at 0.7% niobium pentoxide. Used in high-strength steel alloys for aerospace, automotive, and construction. A domestic niobium supply would reduce the cost of the integrated steel mill's alloy steel production.
Estimated Gross Value	USD 62.4 billion gross revenue over 23 years at 2013 prices. This is speculative -- based on early estimates, not proven reserves. Rare earth prices are volatile and processing infrastructure costs USD 500 million to USD 2 billion to build. Gross revenue is not profit. The deposit's scale and grade are real; the headline valuation is not a planning figure.
Strategic Position	China controls approximately 85% of global rare earth processing capacity. The US, EU, Japan, South Korea, and Australia have all designated REE security as a national priority. Mrima Hill, developed under Kenyan ownership terms, positions Kenya as a non-Chinese source of critical minerals for the global energy transition -- a geopolitical asset of the first order.

THE VALUATION CAUTION	USD 62.4 billion is a gross revenue estimate -- not profit -- based on 2013 prices and preliminary data. The gap between a geophysical anomaly and a producing mine generating government revenue is typically 10-15 years and USD 1-2 billion in capital. Kenya must negotiate on realistic expectations, not headline valuations that have ranged as high as USD 7 trillion in some reports.

2.2 The Governance Approach

Step	Design
Feasibility Study First	The January 2024 tender for a detailed feasibility study is completed before any mining licence is awarded. The study -- independently reviewed by the KGS and an internationally recognised third party -- establishes the actual resource, processing requirements, and economic viability under current market conditions. No licence is awarded on a 2013 estimate.
NMC Mandatory Equity	All strategic minerals, including Mrima Hill's REE and niobium, are developed in conjunction with the National Mining Corporation. The NMC holds a minimum 35% equity stake -- non-negotiable, non-dilutable below 25% without Parliamentary approval.
Community Compact First	No mining licence is issued until: (1) Kwale County's outstanding Base Titanium royalties are fully settled from the national Mining Development Fund; (2) the Digo community's cultural heritage rights over Kaya Mrima are formally documented and a Heritage Protection Zone defined; (3) the community benefit agreement is signed and registered.
Competitive Tender	Remaining equity (up to 65%) offered through a transparent international competitive tender. Evaluated on: technical capability; financial capacity; community benefit commitments; environmental management; and technology transfer. The Cabinet Secretary does not have discretion to award outside the tender process.
Strategic Partner Balance	Kenya is not required to choose between the US, China, Australia, or Japan. The tender is open to all, with evaluation criteria favouring partners who commit to: processing REEs in Kenya; technology transfer to Kenyan engineers; and offtake arrangements that do not lock Kenya into a single buyer for decades.

2.3 The REE Processing Ambition

The most important decision about Mrima Hill is not who mines it -- it is where the processing happens. Exporting raw ore generates approximately 3-5% of the value of finished rare earth materials. Processing ore into separated rare earth oxide concentrate in Kenya generates 15-20%. Producing finished rare earth magnets approaches the full value. The programme's sequence: mine and concentration plant from Year 1 of production; hydrometallurgical separation plant by Year 5, built in the Dongo Kundu SEZ; downstream magnet manufacturing as a 15-year horizon in partnership with Japanese, South Korean, or European magnet manufacturers who need a non-Chinese REE supply chain. The niobium feeds the integrated steel mill's alloy steel production from Year 1 -- the most immediate value capture opportunity.

SECTION 3: THE MINERAL INVENTORY

3.1 Soda Ash -- Lake Magadi

Lake Magadi in the southern Rift Valley is one of the world's largest and purest natural soda ash deposits. Magadi Soda Company, a Tata Chemicals subsidiary operating since 1911, produces approximately 250,000 tonnes per year. The programme has two components: renegotiating the concession terms when legally appropriate to reflect current best practice; and building domestic downstream processing so that soda ash becomes sodium compounds, glass, and detergent chemicals in Kenya rather than being exported as a raw industrial chemical. A domestic glass manufacturing plant using Magadi soda ash -- already identified as a Year 8 target in the Industry and Manufacturing Vision -- is the primary downstream investment. The KNAGS data has identified additional saline lake anomalies in the Rift Valley consistent with soda ash potential, now undergoing ground truthing.

3.2 Titanium Minerals -- The Kwale Legacy and the New Frontier

Element	Programme
The Base Titanium Lesson	The Kwale operation closed in December 2024 after depleting its commercially viable ore reserve. It generated over KSh 36 billion in taxes and royalties in its decade of operation. What it failed to do: process a single tonne of ilmenite into titanium dioxide pigment in Kenya; transfer the full royalty obligation to Kwale County on schedule; create a lasting industrial asset beyond the mine itself. KSh 900 million in community and county royalties remain unpaid.
The New Coastal Frontier	Base Resources holds eight prospecting licence applications in the Kwale, Kuranze, and Lamu coastal regions. The KNAGS confirms additional heavy mineral sand resources along the coast. These licences should be processed promptly under the revised framework.
The TiO2 Mandatory Condition	Any new mineral sands licence includes a mandatory domestic processing commitment: minimum 40% of ilmenite production must be converted to titanium dioxide pigment in Kenya by Year 5 of mine operation. The TiO2 plant is located at the Dongo Kundu SEZ. This single condition transforms the value base of the royalty calculation by 8 to 10 times.

3.3 Gold -- Western Kenya and Beyond

Gold has been mined artisanally in Migori, Kakamega, and West Pokot for generations. The KNAGS has confirmed additional occurrences in Turkana, Marsabit, Isiolo, and West Pokot. The programme's gold strategy has two tracks: formalising the artisanal sector through the cooperative model (Section 7), and establishing a Kenya Gold Refinery at the Nairobi industrial zone as the mandatory routing point for all production before export. No unrefined gold may be exported from Kenya. All artisanal and large-scale gold moves through the refinery -- eliminating the informal export chain to Uganda and Dubai that currently captures the refining margin Kenya should be earning.

3.4 Gemstones -- Tsavorite and the Cutting Industry

Kenya is one of the world's only sources of tsavorite -- a brilliant green grossular garnet commanding USD 500 to USD 10,000 per carat for fine quality stones. Almost all gems leave Kenya as raw stones and are cut and polished in India, Thailand, Israel, and Belgium at values 10 to 50 times higher than the rough export price. A Kenya Gemstone Cutting and Polishing Centre at Mombasa trains Kenyan artisans in cutting and polishing through the KNQF vocational system. No raw gemstone above 5 carats may be exported uncut. The Kenya Tsavorite brand -- certified origin and quality for stones cut in Kenya -- commands a 30-50% premium in the international coloured gemstone market.

3.5 Critical Energy Transition Minerals

The KNAGS has confirmed the presence of the following critical minerals, all designated as strategic by the government in 2023 -- their development must proceed in conjunction with the National Mining Corporation:

Mineral	Strategic Context	Confirmed Counties
Lithium	Primary component of lithium-ion batteries for EVs and grid storage. Global demand projected to increase 40-fold by 2040.	Multiple counties. Ground truthing ongoing.
Cobalt	Critical cathode material for lithium-ion batteries. DRC controls 70% of global supply -- a Kenya source is highly significant.	Kitui, Embu, Taita-Taveta.
Graphite	Anode material for lithium-ion batteries. Growing rapidly with EV production.	Kwale, Kilifi, coast region.
Coltan	Ore for tantalum used in electronics capacitors. Confirmed in six counties. Kenyan coltan, formally mined under cooperative framework, has differentiation potential against DRC supply.	Six counties confirmed.
Copper	Foundational for all electrical systems. A domestic copper mine would be among the highest-value developments possible -- and the electrification programme creates immediate domestic demand.	West Pokot, Kitui, Embu, Isiolo, Samburu.
Nickel	Batteries, stainless steel, superalloys. Growing battery demand.	Taita-Taveta, Kwale, Kitui.

SECTION 4: COAL AT MUI BASIN -- THE HONEST ASSESSMENT

The Mui Basin in Kitui County contains estimated reserves of over 400 million tonnes of coal. Whether and how to develop these reserves is one of Kenya's most consequential and contested mineral policy decisions. This programme addresses it directly and honestly.

4.1 What the Coal Is

Analysis of Mui coal samples characterises a sub-bituminous to bituminous thermal coal: high volatile matter (approximately 58-59%), moderate fixed carbon (approximately 25-28%), low ash content (9-11% for the better samples), and sulphur content of approximately 1.9%. This is primarily thermal coal -- suitable for power generation and some industrial applications. It is not premium metallurgical (coking) coal. The high volatile matter makes it unsuitable without blending for the blast furnace coking application the integrated steel mill requires, which specifies premium hard coking coal with low volatile matter (under 25%) and high fixed carbon.

4.2 The Case Against Thermal Coal Power Generation

Factor	Assessment
Energy Transition Context	International financing for new coal projects is effectively unavailable. The World Bank, most development finance institutions, and most commercial banks have ceased coal financing. A coal power plant commissioned in 2030 faces stranded asset risk within its operating lifetime.
Kenya's Renewable Advantage	Kenya already generates over 80% of its electricity from renewable sources. Adding coal power reverses a competitive advantage that makes Kenya's manufacturing sector more attractive than coal-intensive competitors.
Community Displacement	Developing the Mui Basin at the scale required to feed a 960MW power plant would displace an estimated 100,000 people from agricultural land -- over 30,000 farming households -- without a clear economic return to those communities.
Cancelled Plants	Both the Lamu 1,050MW and the Kitui 960MW coal plants have been effectively cancelled. The market for Mui coal as a power generation feedstock does not currently exist. Kenya's own Least Cost Power Development Plan does not rank coal competitively against geothermal or new renewables.

THE PROGRAMME POSITION	Kenya commissions a full independent feasibility study on the technical viability of Mui coal as a partial coking coal blend feedstock for the integrated steel mill -- conducted by the Kenya Geological Survey and an internationally recognised metallurgical coal specialist. The study is completed within 3 years. The thermal coal power generation application is not pursued under this programme. The Mui Basin communities are not displaced pending the feasibility study outcome. If the steel mill coking blend application proves viable, a limited, purpose-specific extraction operation is designed with a full community benefit agreement and a defined extraction volume -- not an open-ended concession.

SECTION 5: DIATOMITE, FLUORSPAR AND SODA ASH DOWNSTREAM

5.1 Diatomite

Kenya is the world's third-largest diatomite producer, mining primarily in the Rift Valley at Kariandusi, Soysambu, and other sites. Diatomite is used in filtration, as a natural insecticide carrier, and in insulation. Kenya currently exports mostly raw or minimally processed material. A domestic diatomite processing facility in Nakuru County produces: calcined diatomite for high-temperature filtration applications; flux-calcined grades for the food processing and pharmaceutical industries; and insecticide carrier granules for the pyrethrum formulation programme. Kenya grows the pyrethrum, mines the diatomite carrier, and produces the finished insecticide granule domestically. The entire value chain is Kenyan.

5.2 Fluorspar -- Kerio Valley

The Kerio Valley in Elgeyo-Marakwet holds one of East Africa's largest fluorspar deposits. Kenya Fluorspar Company has operated since the 1970s. Fluorspar is a critical mineral for the fluorochemicals industry and for steel production -- it is used as a flux in the blast furnace to reduce slag melting point. The integrated steel mill's blast furnace creates a guaranteed domestic customer for the Kerio Valley production. The programme stabilises fluorspar mining by connecting it to the steel mill supply chain and renegotiating Kenya Fluorspar Company's operating terms to ensure viability at current commodity prices.

SECTION 6: BENEFICIATION MANDATE AND REVENUE REFORM

6.1 The Beneficiation Mandate

Mineral	Beneficiation Requirement
The Graduated Requirement	Beneficiation requirements are graduated by mineral and by timeline. For minerals where processing technology can be established within 5 years, a domestic processing requirement applies from the outset. For complex infrastructure, a progressive schedule is set with minimum thresholds increasing every 3 years.
Titanium/Ilmenite	40% of ilmenite production converted to TiO2 pigment in Kenya by Year 5 of mine operation. Mandatory condition of any new coastal mineral sands licence.
Rare Earths (Mrima Hill)	Minimum 50% of ore production exported as separated rare earth oxide concentrate, not raw ore. REE separation plant built in Kenya within 7 years of production start. Written into the mining licence as a non-negotiable condition.
Gold	All gold produced in Kenya is refined in Kenya through the Kenya Gold Refinery before export. Unrefined gold export is prohibited.
Gemstones	No raw gemstone above 5 carats may be exported uncut from Kenya. Below-5-carat stones may be exported but must be registered at the Kenya Gemstone Cutting Centre for origin certification.
Limestone	All limestone mined must be converted to cement or lime before export -- not exported as raw rock. Kenya has no shortage of cement demand from the construction programme.

6.2 Royalty Rates -- International Best Practice

Mineral Category	Rate	Benchmark
Precious Metals (Gold)	3% for ASM operations (encouraging formalisation), 5% for large-scale. Sliding scale by production volume.	Ghana 5%, Tanzania 4%, DRC 3.5%
Rare Earths and Niobium	5% at mine gate, rising to 8% once the separation plant is operational -- higher rate reflects the higher value of processed output.	Australia 5%, Canada varies
Base Metals (Cu, Co, Ni)	3% for first 3 years (capital recovery support), then 4% at steady state.	Zambia 4-6%, DRC 3.5%
Mineral Sands (Titanium)	5% on concentrate. 7% on TiO2 pigment -- reflecting the higher value of processed output.	Above Base Titanium's 5%, justified by the processing requirement
Gemstones	10% of certified export value for uncut stones. 5% for cut and polished -- lower rate incentivises domestic cutting industry.	Tanzania 5%, Mozambique 3-10%
Soda Ash and Diatomite	2% of gross revenue -- industrial mineral	Consistent with global

	category, maintaining Magadi viability.	industrial mineral rates

6.3 Revenue Distribution Reform

The Mining Act's royalty sharing framework -- 70% national government, 20% county government, 10% community -- is reasonable in principle. The Base Titanium experience proved it does not work in practice: Kwale County is owed KSh 900 million in unpaid royalties when the mine has closed. The reforms are structural:

Element	Reform
Disbursement Deadline	County and community shares are disbursed within 30 days of receipt by the national government. Non-disbursement makes the responsible Permanent Secretary personally liable. This is a treasury offence, not an administrative inconvenience.
Community Fund	The community 10% is paid into a dedicated Community Mineral Development Fund for each mining area -- not the county general fund. Governed by a community-elected board with transparent annual accounts. Used only for infrastructure, education bursaries, environmental rehabilitation, and economic diversification. Not available for recurrent government expenditure.
County Share Accountability	The county 20% goes to the county development budget only. Counties receiving mineral royalties produce an annual Mineral Revenue Development Report. Non-reporting counties have the next disbursement withheld.
National Share Split	50% of the national 70% goes to the Mining Development Fund (KGS ground truthing, NMC investments, legacy site rehabilitation). 20% goes to general revenue.

SECTION 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING FORMALISATION

Artisanal and small-scale mining employs an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 Kenyans and supports the livelihoods of several times that number in mining communities. It is the country's largest informal industrial sector. The programme's approach is not suppression -- it is transformation through the mining cooperative model.

7.1 The Mining Cooperative Model

Element	Programme
Registration	Every artisanal miner in a designated ASM zone registers as a cooperative member. Free, online. Provides: legal right to mine within the cooperative's licence area; access to shared equipment; access to the formal gold and gemstone buying programme; and KNQF safety training.
The Cooperative Licence	The cooperative holds a single artisanal mining licence covering the entire designated zone. Individual members mine under this licence -- eliminating the bureaucratic barrier that keeps artisanal miners informal. The cooperative pays royalties on behalf of all members.
Equipment and Safety	Shared equipment -- water pumps, sluice boxes, basic processing equipment, PPE -- available to members at cost. The KNQF Certificate in Artisanal Mining Safety is mandatory for all members within 18 months of registration.
The Gold Buying Programme	All gold produced by cooperative members is sold through the cooperative's buying desk at the certified refinery price minus the cooperative's operational margin. The formal price must be competitive with the informal market price. The 3% ASM royalty rate (vs 5% for large-scale) ensures this is achievable.
Gemstone Certification	All gemstones above 5 carats produced by cooperative members are certified at the Kenya Gemstone Cutting Centre before sale -- establishing a formal market price rather than the opaque intermediary-controlled pricing that currently gives artisanal gem miners 5-10% of the stone's ultimate value.

7.2 The Kenya Artisanal Mining Academy

Programme	Content
Certificate in Mining Safety	12 months. Mandatory. Mine safety, hazard identification, first aid, environmental management, legal rights and obligations.
Certificate in Mineral Processing	12 months. Gold gravity separation (replacing dangerous mercury amalgamation). Gemstone identification and basic assessment. Basic ore sorting.
Certificate in Mining Equipment Operation	18 months. Small-scale excavators, water pumps, compressed air equipment, dewatering systems.
Diploma in Mining	2 years. For cooperative managers and board members. Cooperative law,

Cooperative Management	financial management, mining regulation, community engagement, and marketing.

SECTION 8: THE NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION AND GOVERNANCE

8.1 The National Mining Corporation

Element	Design
Mandate	The NMC holds equity positions in all strategic mineral developments as a condition of licence award. Minimum 35% NMC equity in any strategic mineral mining operation. Non-dilutable below 25% without Parliamentary approval.
Board	Nine members: three geologists and mining engineers, two finance professionals, one environmental scientist, one legal professional, one community development specialist, one independent commercial member. No political appointments.
Funding	Capitalised from the Mining Development Fund. Initial target: KSh 20 billion over 5 years. NMC raises additional capital through commercial borrowing against its equity stakes.
Prohibition	The NMC may not award any exploration or mining licence. It may not grant any exemption from royalty obligations. Its sole function is investment -- managing equity stakes in mining operations on behalf of the Kenyan people.
Mineral Regulatory Authority	The Mining Amendment Bill 2023's proposed MRA takes over regulatory functions from the Cabinet Secretary. The MRA processes all licences, conducts compliance monitoring, and manages the Mining Rights Tribunal for dispute resolution. The Cabinet Secretary provides policy direction only.

8.2 The Community Compact -- A Standard, Not a Negotiation

The community compact is a standard condition of every mining licence -- as non-negotiable as the royalty rate. No licence is issued without a signed compact containing:

Compact Element	Standard
Employment Obligation	Minimum 60% of the operational workforce (non-specialist roles) drawn from communities within 50km of the mine site by Year 3 of production.
Procurement Obligation	Minimum 30% of goods and services procurement (by value) from businesses owned by community members within 50km by Year 5.
Community Fund	1% of annual gross revenue to the Community Mineral Development Fund -- beyond the statutory royalty. Governed by a community-elected board.
Heritage Protection	Where the mining area overlaps gazetted heritage sites or sacred sites, a Heritage Protection Zone is defined within which no physical disturbance occurs. Kaya Mrima is a Heritage Protection Zone regardless of the scale of mining activity on the remainder of Mrima Hill.
Rehabilitation Bond	The operator lodges a bond -- held by the MRA -- sufficient to fund full environmental rehabilitation of the mine site at closure. Sized by an independent estimate, not the operator's own figure.
Dispute Resolution	Community disputes about compact implementation are adjudicated by the Mining

	Rights Tribunal -- accessible and affordable, not expensive commercial arbitration.

8.3 Anti-Corruption Architecture

Mechanism	Design
Published Licence Register	All mining licences, their full terms, royalty rates, NMC equity stakes, and community compact commitments are published on the MRA's public website within 7 days of issue. No licence term is commercially confidential.
Beneficial Ownership	All mining companies operating in Kenya disclose the beneficial owners behind corporate structures. No licence may be held by an anonymous beneficial owner or a shell company in a secrecy jurisdiction.
Parliamentary Ratification	All strategic mineral agreements are tabled in Parliament for ratification within 90 days of signing. Parliament may reject or require renegotiation.
Anti-Interference	No Cabinet Secretary, Governor, Member of Parliament, or government official may direct the MRA or NMC regarding any licence award or royalty calculation. Written directions are published within 48 hours. A public interference register is maintained. A person convicted of corrupt interference faces a minimum 7-year imprisonment.

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The community above the minerals is the first beneficiary.

Not the last.

PROGRAMME INTEGRATION APPENDIX

Madini ya Taifa — Minerals — Cross-Programme Integration, Employment Summary and Legal Register

A. Employment Summary

Institution / Role	Permanent	Entry-Level	Entry Qualification and Pathway
KNAGS / KGMI field geologists and surveyors	500	300	Geologists, geophysicists, GIS analysts — KNQF Level 6. Entry: BSc Geology, Mining Engineering, or Geophysics.
Community mining monitor staff	470	470	ALL entry-level. One per mining-active county. Community land mining compact liaison officers — KNQF Level 4.

Mine operations staff (programme-enabled private sector)	8,000	4,000	Mining operatives, processing plant workers — KNQF Level 3–4. Entry via mining company training programmes benchmarked to KGMI standard.

Employment Summary	Figure
Total permanent positions (Year 10 steady state)	~8,970
Entry-level positions (KNQF Level 2–5)	~4,770
Reference — full programme employment register	Programme Integration Index (PII) Section Two

B. Cross-Programme Linkages

Every linkage below names the specific institution, data system, or instrument that creates the interface. Vague references are not listed — only confirmed operational connections.

Links To	Specific Linkage — Institution, Data System, or Instrument at the Interface
Ardhi ya Taifa	Community Land Mining Compact: community land registration (ArdhiSasa) precedes any mining licence on community land. The compact includes: community revenue share (minimum 5% of gross mineral royalty), environmental covenant, KGMI ground-truth survey confirming resource estimate before licence issue, NLC adjudication of community land boundaries as a condition.
Sayansi na Teknolojia	KGMI (KRA Institute 3, combining KNAGS and new geological institute): airborne survey archive as baseline, ground-truth survey programme (200 geologists deployed to priority mineral occurrences), mineral beneficiation research. The pipeline: KNAGS airborne survey → KGMI ground-truth → resource estimate → mining licence → royalty payments to National Mining Revenue Fund.
Usafiri wa Taifa	Mrima Hill REE (Rare Earth Elements) requires dedicated road and rail evacuation: Mrima Hill to Mombasa Port via upgraded road and KRC Southern Corridor. LAPSSET corridor serves northern mineral areas (Lake Turkana oil). KILP mineral export logistics tracking.
Ulinzi na Usalama	KMEC builds mine security infrastructure and access roads in security-zone mining areas. National Fire Service mine rescue units co-located with Kwale and Kitui operations. NPS Environmental and Wildlife Crime Unit enforces mining environmental compliance.
Mazingira ya Taifa	Mining Environmental Compact as part of Community Land Mining Compact: progressive rehabilitation obligations, environmental bond, KECRI independent monitoring, restoration to agreed land use on mine closure.

C. Legal Instruments and Constitutional Protection

Legal Instrument	Year	Pathway
Mining Act Amendment — Community Land Mining Compact, community revenue share, KGMI pre-licence survey mandate	Year 2	Simple majority
National Mining Revenue Fund Act — royalty collection and community distribution	Year 2	Simple majority
Mrima Hill Rare Earth Elements Development Act — specific legislative framework for strategic mineral	Year 3	Simple majority

D. Live Metrics and Accountability

Full cross-reference detail: Programme Integration Index (PII) — Sections 1, 2, and 3. **Live metrics:** National Mining Dashboard. Monthly: mining licence applications and approvals, KGMI survey programme progress (priority mineral occurrences moved from airborne identification to ground-truth resource estimate), royalty collections per county, community revenue distributions under mining compacts.